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Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. taught many of us that our culture and race should not matter in the state of being equal. Although he made a difference in the world, it is up to us to continue his teachings.

In today's diverse world, we tend to stereotype others by race, color, financial status, clothing style, etc., and place them in categories such as punks, preps, whites, black, inner city, outer city, etc. Instead of categorizing, we should be accepting. All of us are different, accepting that difference only makes us stronger and able to treat each other equally.

We should all take a lesson from Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. and accept each other for the individuals that we are. We can try to become friends with the people who we usually don't talk to or hang out with. By doing this, we can grow culturally. Who knows the person who you thought was different and unapproachable may end up becoming your best friend. Case in point, I became best friends with someone who I thought was inapproachable. By opening my mind and heart, I approached her and realized we had a lot more in common than I thought we did. Our perspectives of people different than us changed for the better.

Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. also taught us that violence does not solve our problems. He showed us this by using non-violent protests to fight racial discrimination. We can continue this teaching by standing up for our rights. This means that we should try to respect other's opinions and beliefs no matter how much we disagree. In doing this

we can find a common ground with the people who we may disagree with. We can also spread messages by stopping the people who we know from fighting and help them make resolutions. I can do this by trying to get along with people around me and have a better understanding of each other.

These are just a few differences I can make to spread the word and actions of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. If we all pitch in, we can work to stop discrimination against all people and the violence on our streets all together.